

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-9537



August 26, 1982

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-116-82

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: VERIFICATION CHECKS FOR POTENTIAL DUPLICATE PARTICIPATION IN THE
FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-111-81 (DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 1981)
REGARDING USDA/OIG HIGH IMPACT AUDIT IN CALIFORNIA

The State Department of Social Services (SDSS) recently received the results of a statewide food stamp audit conducted in August 1980 by the Office of Inspector General (OIG), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The objective of the audit was to determine how effectively program fraud, waste, and abuse were minimized. Using computerized county master file and redemption tapes within counties, and from county to county, OIG found the following deficiencies:

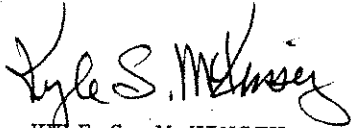
- (1) Recipients whose name and social security numbers appeared in more than one case;
- (2) Recipients whose name and date of birth (but with different social security numbers) appeared in more than one case; and
- (3) Recipients suspected of receiving food stamps under both public assistance and nonassistance classifications.

In order to prevent these (and other) deficiencies which can result in duplicate issuances, counties are reminded that State regulations (MPP Section 63-602.233) require counties to check the Household Issuance Record master file prior to approving a household for food stamps. We urge counties not using this procedure to take action to implement it immediately. In addition, we would encourage counties to conduct periodic matches to identify recipients participating in more than one case. In some counties, this may require only a slight system modification. Although this is not a regulatory requirement, conducting periodic matches will ensure the integrity of each county's case file.

In the meantime, the State plans to develop a food stamp master file to be used to check for duplicate participation from county to county as part of the State's implementation of federal wage matching regulations. This will help detect and deter fraud.

Should you have any questions, please contact your food stamp operations consultant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kyle S. McKinsey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kyle" being more prominent.

KYLE S. MCKINSEY
Deputy Director
Welfare Program Operations

cc: CWDA Food Stamp Committee
FNS/WRO